

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Restriction action issued 28 Jan 2004, a restriction requirement was raised between group I, drawn to method claims, and group II, drawn to a non-human organism. Although claim 45 was included in both groups, it is believed that this was an inadvertent error, since it is a method claim and belongs in group I. Accordingly, in response to the Restriction action, the applicants elect claim group I, drawn to claims 1-20, 23-42, 45-63 and 66-84, and cancel non-elected claims 21-22, 43-44, 64-65 and 85-86 without prejudice to their renewal in a subsequently filed application.

Claim 23 was amended to depend on claim 1, requiring cancellation of claims 24-42; claim 45 was amended to delete step (b); claim 66 was amended to delete original step b) and c), which now appear as new dependent claim 87. Claims 20, 58, 81 and 84 were amended to correct dependency or language issues.

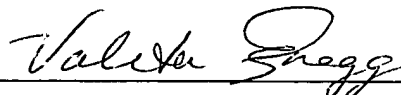
Conclusion

It is believed that this document is fully responsive to the Restriction requirement raised in the Restriction action dated 28 January 2004. In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully urged.

Fees

Although it is believed that no fees are due, in the event the Patent Office determines that fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account Number 18-050 in the amount of any fees deemed to be due.

Respectfully submitted



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